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explanation. The difficulty of using the descriptions in the text—and often on another page—is irritating as well as baffling to the reader.

On the whole Mr. Williams is to be heartily congratulated on a piece of work which opens up new possibilities in the intensive study of localities, and proves that monographic work of this kind is to be of prime importance to sociology.

GEORGE E. VINCENT

Life and Death: A Study in Biology. By DR. E. TEICHMANN.
Translated by A. M. SIMONS. Chicago: Charles H. Kerr
Co., 1906. Pp. 158.

This small volume in the "Library of Science for Workers" is a clear and interesting account of the most fundamental life-phenomena, and represents what may be called the "missing link" in the modern system of education. It is an attempt to bring the results of scientific pursuit to the popular mind in a generalized form. Huxley did it successfully, and the magazines are doing the same thing. But in general the scientist is so intensively engaged that he will not present his findings in a generalized form, and they leak out as best they may. In the industrial pursuits, where money is involved, there is a class of specialists engaged in carrying scientific results over into practice. But the social interests are not so well served, and in consequence there is a sharp break between consciousness of the world at large and the consciousness of the scientific world. We are glad to welcome a book which makes intelligence more general and consciousness more homogeneous.

W. I. THOMAS

Efficiency and Relief. By E. T. DEVINE. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1906. Pp. 45.

The subtitle of this lecture, with which Dr. Devine began his work as Schiff professor of social economy in Columbia University, expresses the firm and clear conception of the scholar in practical life, "a programme of social work." The mere "practical man" has no principles and no programme, and the mere "theorist" has a scheme which has no relation to reality. In this volume a part of the problem of philanthropy is stated, to increase industrial

efficiency in the individual and to provide adequate relief for those who are of deficient wage-earning capacity (p. 1). This is the "social economic" definition, but it does not cover the entire aim of philanthropy. Large and fine as is the outlook of this lecture, it lacks something of complete analysis of the aim of charity. "Industrial efficiency" itself depends as the author himself appreciates, upon the awakening of desires for a fuller, richer life, and hope to attain them. The treatment is, indeed, broader than the definition; the spirit of the author is wider than the programme he outlines; and the lectures which will follow will pass beyond the territory which can be accurately named "economics."

C. R. HENDERSON

Annual Report of the Superintendent of Compulsory Education.

Board of Education of Chicago, 1906.

This brief report is unusually instructive in relation to the causes of truancy and the efficiency of the work of truant officers, parental school, and juvenile court.

C. R. H.

Esquisse d'une sociologie. Par ÉMILE WAXWEILER, Directeur de l'Institut de Sociologie (Bruxelles), Professor à l'Université de Bruxelles. Bruxelles: Misch et Thron. Pp. 306. Fr. 12.

The professional sociologists ought not to overlook this outline. The author is mistaken in his judgment that there has been no progress in sociology, and that it is an exceptional service to the science for him to come to the rescue. There have been so many different contributions to sociology in the last dozen years that no single mind can fairly grasp their total significance. This by no means removes the fact that the science is in its infancy. The tone of Professor Waxweiler's preface, however, is needlessly patronizing toward the scholars who have contributed to the progress of sociology. The absence of caution in estimating the work of other scholars leads to the suspicion that the writer's acquaintance with the literature of his subject is limited. This impression is strengthened by such facts as the following: The title of the last chapter of the outline is "Les synergies sociales." The only reference that I can discover in the book to the name of Lester F. Ward is in a cita-